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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Hardening of Policy Toward Satellites

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1. Richard Dvorak, Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Trade, who has been conducting negotiations on commercial affairs in Moscow, has been declared inefficient by the Kremlin and replaced by Antonin Marek, Deputy Minister. On 9 Nov 53 Marek forwarded to Prague an extremely strong Soviet note with regard to the delays in deliveries of Czechoslovak machines and goods for the USSR. At the same time very hard conditions were presented for further commercial arrangements. 25X1
2. On 11 Nov 53 Ambassador A J Bogolomov presented Prague with a Soviet plan for the unification of agricultural policy in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Poland. The plan is considered almost impossible by Czechoslovak experts. The same plan has been presented by G M Popov in Warsaw and by Ambassador J D Kiselev in Budapest, and the reactions in these places are similar to those in Czechoslovakia.
3. It is generally expected that a conference of Soviet and Satellite leaders will be called for 15 Dec 53 in Moscow, to be presided over by Malenkov. The general feeling is that Soviet pressure on all the Satellites is on the increase. The Moscow conference is also expected to take up means of collaboration of the Satellite states with the Soviet Zone of Germany, which will be accepted as a regular permanent member of the Soviet bloc, with the abandonment of all plans for the unification of Germany.
4. Strong Soviet measures against the general deterioration of economy in the Satellites are expected to be taken, including the transfer of technical and scientific research from Poland and Hungary to the USSR.
5. The Czechoslovak Government, much worried about the stiffening Soviet attitude, has intrusted Dr. Jaromir Dolansky, First Deputy Prime Minister, with the negotiations.

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